

COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND LICENSING

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January 31, 1979

78-7933

TO: County and District Superintendents of Schools; Deans of Schools of Education, California Colleges and Universities; and Credentials Supervisors

FROM: Peter L. LoPresti, Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Specialized Teacher Preparation for Teachers and Administrators

Education Code 56719, Section 67.5 (AB 1250), enacted by the Legislature and effective January 1, 1978, specifies in part that "...the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing and the Department of Education shall cooperate in developing requirements that will ensure that all individuals receiving a clear teaching credential, except a designated subjects teaching credential, or an administrative services credential after July 1, 1979, shall have received training in the needs of, and methods of providing educational opportunities to, individuals with exceptional needs".

The Commission, on October 6, 1978, adopted Title 5 Regulations for the implementation of Section 67.5 of AB 1250. These regulations require the college or university recommending for a clear multiple or single subject teaching credential or administrative services credential to submit a plan for Commission approval indicating how the special education training requirement will be met. The requirement may be satisfied by a course of study, which may be offered or accepted by an approved college or university.

After July 1, 1979 the college or university recommending for a clear multiple or single subject teaching credential or administrative services credential will need to verify on the candidate's application form that the special education requirement has been met. Those individuals who apply after July 1, 1979 for the administrative services credential on the basis of the ETS examination will need to have verification from an approved college or university that they have met the special education training requirements.

It is estimated that the number of individuals who hold the preliminary multiple or single subject credentials is in excess of 25,000. Those individuals who received the preliminary credential since April 1978 are very probably aware of these added requirements for the clear credential. A notification was provided to them in the material sent with their credential. However, many of the 25,000 who completed requirements for the preliminary credential prior to April 1978 may not yet be aware of these added requirements and of the critical date of July 1, 1979. It

is vitally important that these individuals understand: (1) that the intent of these requirements is to ensure the successful implementation of the master plan in special education; and (2) their options in applying for the clear credential prior to July 1, 1979 (if eligible) or meeting the special education requirements if they apply after July 1, 1979.

Many of the preliminary credential holders have completed the fifth year requirement and could be recommended for clear credentials before July 1, 1979, even though their preliminary credential may be valid beyond that date. We expect that these individuals will want to receive this information as soon as possible. Your assistance in alerting them to the July 1, 1979 deadline and of their right to apply for the clear credential prior to that date will be very much appreciated.

Those individuals who still have all or part of the fifth year of study requirements to complete and are not aware of the new special education training requirement will find it helpful to do one of the following:

1. Contact a nearby college or university for assistance;
2. contact the college or university where they received the preliminary credential;
3. write to Dr. Paul Finkbeiner at the Commission office who will be happy to assist in this matter.

Your cooperation in transmitting the information regarding specialized preparation for teachers and administrators is important and very much appreciated by the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing.